



## **MLA Coralee Oakes named Opposition Critic for Emergency Preparedness**

QUESNEL (September 10, 2020) – BC Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson has named Cariboo North MLA Coralee Oakes as the new Official Opposition Critic for Emergency Preparedness after the BC Liberals made changes to critic roles today to focus on holding John Horgan and his government to account in key areas while the NDP government struggles to respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

“The emergency preparedness file is so important in a province as environmentally diverse as B.C., so I am very honoured to have been asked to take on this file,” said Oakes. “With flood and wildfire seasons becoming more intense and frequent, the importance of ensuring government is well prepared to handle emergencies and keep the public safe will be a priority for me in this new role. I understand the long-term impacts of these events and the need for government to ensure they are focusing more on prevention, working closely with all communities and ensuring there is support long after the event to ensure infrastructures such as roads, watersheds and wildlife values are supported and invested in.”

The critic role changes announced today build on the 13 letters and over 60 policy suggestions introduced by the BC Liberals over the last several months to help B.C. combat the effects of COVID-19 on people and the economy and get the province back on track.

“Coralee Oakes has been a tireless advocate in her region for years, and I look forward to seeing her bring that same passion and dedication as she holds the NDP government to account in her new role as Critic for Emergency Preparedness,” added BC Liberal Leader Andrew Wilkinson. “Our renewed direction has been shaped by conversations with thousands of British Columbians in every corner of the province as

we developed ideas and solutions to help people, non-profits, and small businesses that are all struggling right now. The NDP government has been all talk and no action, so the changes we've made today highlight that and build upon our momentum as we continue to fight for a plan that provides opportunity for all of B.C.”solutions to help people, non-profits, and small businesses that are all struggling right now. The NDP government has been all talk and no action, so the changes we've made today highlight that and build upon our momentum as we continue to fight for a plan that provides opportunity for all of B.C.”